

□ 1400

## AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. STEARNS) at 2 p.m.

## PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Lord God, You long to sustain us in our most difficult times. You desire to renew us in moments of rest.

Grant to the Members of the House of Representatives gifted moments throughout this week when Your presence is felt and Your companionship is realized in their work.

You can offer both healing and strengthening power to Your people when they seem caught by conflict and anxiety-producing situations.

Free all of them, Lord, interiorly that they may be their very best and Your chosen instruments to guide and even restrain the energies of this land of the free.

In You we move, act and have our very being, now and forever. Amen.

## THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

## PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Maine (Mr. MICHAUD) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. MICHAUD led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

## BRENDA NICHOL

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, Brenda Nichol has taught for the Armstrong-Indiana Intermediate Unit in western Pennsylvania for 8 years now. But on April 4, Brenda was notified that the small cross necklace she was wearing around her neck would have to be concealed by clothing or removed when she was in school. School officials claim that wearing the necklace in school violates the unit's policy as well as Pennsylvania school code regulations that prohibit school employees from wearing religious clothing or symbols in school. When asked to remove the necklace, Brenda refused. On April 8 she was suspended. On April 16 she was notified that the suspension would be for a year without pay.

Mr. Speaker, this is outrageous. School personnel, just like students, do not check their constitutional liberties at the schoolhouse door. Brenda is a dedicated teacher who has a constitutional right to wear her little cross pendant around her neck at school. I hope the court will overturn the intermediate unit's harsh punishment for their ridiculous decision.

## CYPRUS

(Mr. BEREUTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, several weeks ago, this House for the first time in 6 years spoke unanimously and decisively on the current situation involving Cyprus. On March 27, this body voted 422-0 to express our disappointment that a United Nations-backed settlement plan would not be presented to the people of Cyprus for their consideration. The resolution, introduced by this Member, also called for the Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders to quickly return to the negotiating table to find a fair and lasting settlement acceptable to all.

Since passage of that resolution, two extraordinary events have taken place on that divided island. The first took place over Easter holiday when Turkish Cypriot leader, Mr. Rauf Denktash, announced a freedom of movement policy whereby the border separating the two sides would be open for the free passage of the island's population. In another welcome move shortly thereafter, the Cyprus Government announced that it was initiating 19 confidence-building measures. Some of those included lifting of trade restrictions between the north and the south and the de-mining of the Greek Cypriot side of the buffer zone.

Mr. Speaker, whatever the impact the actions of this House had on events which have taken place on Cyprus, a new and positive attitude has taken hold on that island. This Member would like to commend Mr. Denktash for taking the bold and most welcome actions he initiated. In addition, this Member wishes to offer a special note of congratulations to President Papadopoulos for the comprehensive and impressive measures his government has put forward and has begun to implement.

Others include the hiring of Turkish Cypriot professionals in the Cyprus Government; restoration of direct telecommunications between the Greek Cypriot side and the north as well as with Turkey; permitting Turkish Cypriot athletes to participate as members of national sporting teams of the Republic of Cyprus; improved health care opportunities for Turkish Cypriots; and an accounting of missing personnel, just to name a few.

Of further interest, Turkish Prime Minister Erdogan traveled to north Cyprus last weekend. It was this Member's hope that the visit would help pave the way for the eventual resumption of settlement negotiations between

the two Cypriot sides. In the meantime, however, it was also this Member's hope that Turkey could be helpful in building confidence on the island by announcing several new initiatives as well. These could include the demining of the Turkish side to the buffer zone; placing the town of Famagusta under U.N. control for its reconstruction and return of its original inhabitants; addressing the issue of the enclaved people living in northern Cyprus, and to restart the missing persons' investigative committee.

Mr. Speaker, while open borders, telecommunications and demining will not ultimately settle the division of the island, these measures, hopefully, will lead to more trust and a willingness to quickly resume the negotiations, and find a settlement for this division, which is the strong desire of this House.

MOURNING THE PASSING OF THE  
HONORABLE JOHN ROUSSELOT

(Mr. DREIER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I take this time to inform our colleagues of the sad news that we received yesterday of the passing of our former colleague, Congressman John Rousselot. John Rousselot was one of the most dynamic and hardworking Members of this institution. He loved the People's House. He was an individual who in many ways was proposing ideas far ahead of his time. I was talking to our staff director of the Committee on Rules, Billy Pitts, who reminded me that he helped John Rousselot decades ago author the first balanced budget proposals. We all now know that both sides of the aisle talk about fiscal responsibility as we pursue our goal of trying to rein in wasteful Federal spending. No one did that with greater enthusiasm and passion than John Rousselot. He served with distinction on both the Banking Committee and the Ways and Means Committee, and he often would come forward with many creative proposals.

I have the privilege, Mr. Speaker, of now representing much of the area that Mr. Rousselot represented, and he is remembered very fondly by his constituents. No one was more tireless in their work in behalf of the concerns of the individuals whom he represented. I know the thoughts and prayers of all of my colleagues go to the family members of John Rousselot. I want to say that I personally will miss his advice and counsel greatly.

IN MEMORY OF MATTHEW J.  
RYAN, FORMER SPEAKER OF  
PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE

(Mr. ENGLISH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ENGLISH. Today, Mr. Speaker, the House has the melancholy responsibility to take up a resolution memorializing one of the great leaders of the